

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 05048 301821Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-05 PA-01 TRSE-00 CTME-00 OC-06

CCO-00 SSO-00 /027 W

-----014892 301831Z /50

O 301749Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8240

INFO DEA HQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BOGOTA 5048

DEPT FOR MS FALCO S/NM; DEPT ASST SECY ARRELLANO ARA/LA  
DEA FOR ADMINISTRATOR BENSINGER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR CO

SUBJECT: ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING JULIO CESAR TURBAY

REF: A. BOGOTA 3292 B. STATE 70158

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED BY TWO SOURCES THAT MAY 7 BALTIMORE SUN ARTICLE BY TIMOTHY ROSS (REF A) IS IN HANDS OF ALL LOCAL NEWSPAPERS WHICH ARE DEBATING IF AN WHEN TO PUBLISH IT. ROSS ARTICLE INTER ALIA REFERS TO ALLEGATIONS CONTAINED US CUSTOMS CLASSIFIED REPORT (REF B) THAT TURBAY WHEN AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON ALLOWED USE OF DIPLOMATIC POUCH TO FACILITATE NARCOTICS TRANSACTIONS.

2. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS INFORMANT IN US CUSTOMS REPORT WAS TOO FAR REMOVED FROM ALLEGED INCIDENTS INVOLVING TURBAY FOR THE INFORMATION TO BE GIVEN CREDENCE. ALLEGATIONS WERE THEREFORE DROPPED FROM CORRUPTION BRIEFING GIVEN PRESIDENT LOPEZ BY BOURNE AND BENSINGER.

3. WITH ONLY FOUR DAYS REMAINING UNTIL COLOMBIAN  
SECRET

SECRET

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PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, REPUBLICATION OF ROSS ARTICLE LOCALLY WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE SERIOUS POLITICAL REPRE- CUSSIONS. PROMINENT TURBAY SUPPORTER HAS INDICATED HE BELIEVES TURBAY POLITICAL APPARATUS HAS SUFFICIENT INFLUENCE TO KEEP STORY FROM APPEARING. HOWEVER, THIS MAY WELL BE OVERLY OPTIMISTIC EVALUATION GIVEN DAMAPIGN PRESSURES THAT EXIST.

4. USG MUST BE PREPARED FOR EVENTUALITY THAT STORY APPEARS  
HERE. DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS AS TO HOW SITUATION SHOULD  
BE HANDLED BY EMBASSY ARE REQUESTED SOONEST.

ASENCIO

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BOGOTA05048  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780226-0306  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Subject:** ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING JULIO CESAR TURBAY  
**TAGS:** SNAR, CO, SUN, (TURBAY, JULIO CESAR), (ROSS, TIMOTHY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014